



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF
THE PACIFIC HELD IN HEARST HALL, BERKELEY,
ON JULY 11, 1914, AT 8:00 P. M.

By courtesy of the President of the University of California, and under arrangements perfected with Professor CHARLES H. RIEBER, Dean of the Summer Session of the university, a joint meeting of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific was held in Hearst Hall, Berkeley, on Saturday, July 11, 1914, at 8:00 P. M.

Professor R. T. CRAWFORD, of the Students' Observatory, delivered an illustrated lecture on the subject of "European Observatories" (second series). A large number of very interesting pictures was thrown on the screen, showing the positions, environment and equipment of many of the European observatories. The location of many of them, in the centers of large cities, was described as being unfavorable to seeing conditions and much inferior, in this respect, to American observatories. Notwithstanding their generally poorer location and equipment, Professor CRAWFORD described them as places of great charm and historical interest, more particularly because of their association with the names of men who have become immortal thru their work in astronomical science.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC, HELD IN HEARST HALL,
BERKELEY, ON JULY 11, 1914, AT 7:15 P. M.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed.

The attention of the Board was directed by President CRAWFORD to the movement which has been set on foot, within the past few months, to merge the Pacific Association of Scientific Societies (of which the Astronomical Society of the Pacific is a constituent member) into a Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The following communication from Professor J. N. BOWMAN, secretary of the Pacific Association, was read:—

PACIFIC ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

SEATTLE, May 26th, 1914.

MR. D. S. RICHARDSON,
Secretary Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

My Dear Mr. Richardson:

I enclose herewith a constitution for the proposed merging with the American Association into a Pacific Division. I commend it to your society for its action. The note will, I hope, explain still further. Any questions that may come to mind put to Prof. TOWNLEY, who was on the constitutional committee and who was present at the executive committee last Saturday.

Biology, Palæontology, Geology and Seismology have already accepted the constitution and are ready to sign it when presented.

Believe me very

Cordially,

J. N. BOWMAN.

NOTE.

At the executive committee meeting, May 23rd, 1914, the enclosed constitution was presented by Professor LOUDERBACK for his committee, appointed April, 1913. It was discussed at length, and regarding it the following motions were passed:—

It was moved by Dr. BRANNER, seconded by Prof. MERRIAM, that the committee's work be accepted, and that the constitution be approved and recommended to the constituent societies for their action. Carried unanimously.

It was moved by Prof. LAWSON, seconded by Prof. MERRIAM, that the Pacific Association shall cease to exist and become the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science at the close of the meeting of the American Association at San Francisco, August, 1915; provided, first, that by that time two-thirds of the constituent societies shall have approved the constitution—and signed it; and, second, that the officers of the Pacific Division shall have been appointed, organized and are prepared to carry on the work of the Pacific Association. Carried unanimously.

It was also carried unanimously (moved by Prof. LAWSON, seconded by Prof. MERRIAM) that the secretary be instructed to send a copy of the constitution to the secretary of each constituent society, who has not already received a copy, with the request that each society act on the question of adoption or rejection of the constitution at its earliest convenience and report to the secretary of the Pacific Association its action.

It was carried unanimously that it be the understanding that the current expenses of the secretary until the transfer of the Pacific Division be paid by the Pacific Division of the American Association.

J. N. BOWMAN.

After some discussion, and on motion of Director AITKEN, seconded by Director CORNISH, the Board voted to act in harmony with the plan of the Seattle meeting and to acquiesce in the merging of the Pacific Association into a Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The President and Secretary were, therefore, instructed to sign the proposed constitution of the new organization and return it to Secretary BOWMAN with the approval of this society.

The Secretary-Treasurer reported to the Board the failure of the Contra Costa Water Company to pay the July, 1914, interest upon the three bonds of that company held by this society. The matter was referred to the Finance Committee, with authority to take such steps as might be necessary to protect the interests of the society.

A verbal report was made by the Secretary (who had been appointed a committee of one for that purpose at the last meeting) to the effect that no obstacle existed in the postal laws to prevent the insertion of advertisements in our *Publications*.

A propos of the last award of the Bruce Medal to Dr. BACKLUND, of Pulkovo, the following letter from the recipient was read by the Secretary:—

OBSERVATOIRE CENTRAL NICOLAS.
POULKOVO PRÈS DE ST. PÉTERSBOURG.
CABINET DU DIRECTEUR.

May 24, 1914.

THE SECRETARY OF ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF THE PACIFIC,
D. S. RICHARDSON.

Dear Sir:

Expressing my sincere thanks for your amiable letter of April 6, I have the honor to report that the Chargé d'Affairs of the American Embassy at St. Petersburg has delivered to me the Bruce Gold Medal. My absence abroad for some weeks delayed the reception.

I beg you to be so good as to transfer my thanks to the society and tell the members that I regard this distinction as the highest an astronomer can receive and that I fear it is above my merits. You may be convinced of the sincerity of this feeling, when I tell you that I admire the American astronomers on behalf of their energy, their methods, their keen scientific ideas and the mighty progress of astronomy which we are indebted to them.

Yours, very gratefully,
O. BACKLUND.

Adjourned.